GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:960
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2016
Wholesale and Retail Price of Pulses
Deo Shri Arka Keshari;Subbareddy Shri Yerram Venkata

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per survey conducted by Indian Pulses and Grains Association, there is a huge gap between wholesale and retail prices of pulses in the country even to the extent of 170 per cent in some cases and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether the Government plans to bridge wholesale and retail prices of pulses like Arhar, Urad, Chana, Moong dal etc. in the lean season and if so, the details thereof indicating the mechanism devised to control the retail prices;
(c) whether any emergency planning between the stakeholders like States and various agencies who keep buffer stock has been put in place to stabilize the prices of pulses in future and if so, the details thereof; and
(d) whether the Government has any plan to import these pulses from foreign countries to control prices of these pulses and if so, the details of import of these pulses during the current year?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
(SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY)

(a) : As per the Survey conducted by Indian Pulses and Grains Association (IPGA) during June, August, 2016 in Delhi and Mumbai, the gap between wholesale and retail prices for Yellow Peas was to the extent of 179.31% in Mumbai during August, 2016.

(b) & (c) : No, Madam. There are no such plans. However, Government has decided to create a buffer stock of 20 lakh tonnes of pulses for effective market intervention to stabilize prices of pules.

(d) : Out of approved buffer stock of upto 20 lakh tonnes of pulses, upto 10 lakh tonnes may be imported. The details of imports contracted till date towards building the buffer are as below:-

Pulses Total Contracted (MT)
Tur 1,58,500
Urad 42,500
Masur 1,35,000
Chana 70,000
Total 4,06,000

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